

State of Minnesota  
County of Roseau

District Court  
9th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 23-600-65  
Court File No. 68-CR-23-\_\_\_\_\_

State of Minnesota,  
Plaintiff,

**COMPLAINT**  
Order of Detention

vs.

**BRUCE KENT HANSON - DOB: 04/09/1965**

62791 County Road 2  
Warroad, MN 56763

Defendant.

The Complainant submits this complaint to the Court and states that there is probable cause to believe Defendant committed the following offense(s):

**COUNT I**

**Charge: Present False Claims to Public Officer or Body**

Minnesota Statute: §609.465, with reference to: §609.52, subd. 3(3)(d)(iv)

Maximum Sentence: 5 years, \$10,000 or BOTH

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 10/05/2022

Control #(ICR#): 23001229

Charge Description: It is alleged that on and between October 5, 2022 and October 17, 2022 in Roseau County, Minnesota that **BRUCE KENT HANSON** did, with the intent to defraud, present a claim or demand, with knowledge that it is false in whole or in part, for payment to a public officer or body authorized to make such payment.

**COUNT II**

**Charge: Misconduct of Public Officer or Employee**

Minnesota Statute: §609.43(2)

Maximum Sentence: 1 year, \$3,000 or BOTH

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 10/05/2022

Control #(ICR#): 23001229

Charge Description: It is alleged that on and between October 5, 2022 and March 30, 2023 in Roseau County, Minnesota that **BRUCE KENT HANSON** did in the capacity of a public officer or employee, does an act knowing it is in excess of lawful authority or knowing it is forbidden by law to be done in that capacity.

### COUNT III

**Charge: Government Data Practices, Penalties**

Minnesota Statute: §13.09(a)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days, \$1,000 or BOTH

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 03/17/2022

Control #(ICR#): 23001229

Charge Description: It is alleged that on or about March 17, 2022 in Roseau County, Minnesota that **BRUCE KENT HANSON** did willfully violate the provisions of Minnesota Chapter 13 or any rules adopted under Minnesota Chapter 13 or whose conduct constitutes the knowing unauthorized acquisition of not public data, as defined in section 13.055, subdivision 1.

### COUNT IV

**Charge: Government Data Practices, Penalties**

Minnesota Statute: §13.09(a)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days, \$1,000 or BOTH

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 04/04/2022

Control #(ICR#): 23001229

Charge Description: It is alleged that on or about April 4, 2022 in Roseau County, Minnesota that **BRUCE KENT HANSON** did willfully violate the provisions of Minnesota Chapter 13 or any rules adopted under Minnesota Chapter 13 or whose conduct constitutes the knowing unauthorized acquisition of not public data, as defined in section 13.055, subdivision 1.

### COUNT V

**Charge: Government Data Practices, Penalties**

Minnesota Statute: §13.09(a)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days, \$1,000 or BOTH

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 07/05/2022

Control #(ICR#): 23001229

Charge Description: It is alleged that on or about July 5, 2022 in Roseau County, Minnesota that **BRUCE KENT HANSON** did willfully violate the provisions of Minnesota Chapter 13 or any rules adopted under Minnesota Chapter 13 or whose conduct constitutes the knowing unauthorized acquisition of not public data, as defined in section 13.055, subdivision 1, and shared not public data with another.

## COUNT VI

**Charge: Government Data Practices, Penalties**

Minnesota Statute: §13.09(a)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days, \$1,000 or BOTH

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 02/23/2023

Control #(ICR#): 23001229

Charge Description: It is alleged that on or about February 23, 2023 in Roseau County, Minnesota that **BRUCE KENT HANSON** did willfully violate the provisions of Minnesota Chapter 13 or any rules adopted under Minnesota Chapter 13 or whose conduct constitutes the knowing unauthorized acquisition of not public data, as defined in section 13.055, subdivision 1.

## COUNT VII

**Charge: Government Data Practices, Penalties**

Minnesota Statute: §13.09(a)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days, \$1,000 or BOTH

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 03/13/2023

Control #(ICR#): 23001229

Charge Description: It is alleged that on and between March 13, 2023 – March 14, 2023 in Roseau County, Minnesota that **BRUCE KENT HANSON** did willfully violate the provisions of Minnesota Chapter 13 or any rules adopted under Minnesota Chapter 13 or whose conduct constitutes the knowing unauthorized acquisition of not public data, as defined in section 13.055, subdivision 1, and shared not public data with another.

## COUNT VIII

**Charge: Government Data Practices, Penalties**

Minnesota Statute: §13.09(a)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days, \$1,000 or BOTH

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 03/30/2023

Control #(ICR#): 23001229

Charge Description: It is alleged that on or about March 30, 2023 in Roseau County, Minnesota that **BRUCE KENT HANSON** did willfully violate the provisions of Minnesota Chapter 13 or any rules adopted under Minnesota Chapter 13 or whose conduct constitutes the knowing unauthorized acquisition of not public data, as defined in section 13.055, subdivision 1, and shared not public data with another.

## STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

That I am a license peace officer in the State of Minnesota with the Pennington County Sheriff's Office and as such, have learned the following: On October 5, 2022 Thief River Falls Police Officer Jamison Steer responded to 1518 Meadowlark Court, Thief River Falls, Pennington County, Minnesota to monitor a property exchange involving Meranda Kae Lindgren – DOB: 08/05/1989 and her estranged husband. Officer Steer stood by while Lindgren and Ryon John Clow – DOB: 01/28/1982 unloaded property off a trailer while parked in front the residence. During this time Officer Steer observed a marked Roseau County Sheriff's Office squad car arrive at the scene. At approximately 10:34 hrs, Officer Steer activated his squad car dash camera to document what was transpiring. During this time, the trailer is unhitched from Clow's white in color Dodge pickup truck. Roseau County Deputy Bruce Kent Hanson – DOB: 04/09/1965 is observed backing his marked Roseau County Sheriff's Office squad car up to the trailer. Lindgren and Deputy Hanson are observed hitching the trailer to Deputy Hanson's squad car. Lindgren and Deputy Hanson are observed to briefly speak with each other before hugging each other. Deputy Hanson is observed getting into his squad car and driving away pulling the trailer.

On April 4, 2023, Pennington County Sheriff's Deputy/Pine to Prairie Drug Task Force Office Alex Henningsen notified Pennington County Chief Deputy Scott Mekash that Deputy Hanson had contacted him and requested Deputy Henningsen release Lindgren's property to him from the vehicle Lindgren was arrested in on April 3, 2023. Lindgren is a convicted felon and is currently incarcerated at the Pennington County Jail on pending charges of assault on a Peace Officer, fleeing a Peace Officer in a motor vehicle, child endangerment, and criminal vehicular operation.

Prior to Deputy Henningsen reporting the call he had received from Deputy Hanson he had also reported to Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash that Lindgren and who he believed to be Deputy Hanson had been communicating with each other via the monitored Pennington County Jail inmate text message service.

On April 10, 2023, Kittson County Sheriff's Deputy Kelly Gustafson reported to Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash that Deputy Hanson was communicating with Lindgren via the Pennington County Jail inmate text message service and provided Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash with Deputy Hanson's cellular phone number.

Pennington County Deputy Melissa Larson provided to Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash Lindgren's jail text message log showing all text communications between her and the number matching Deputy Hanson's cellular phone number between February 11, 2023 and April 9, 2023. In reviewing the text message log, Lindgren is associated with the name of Meranda Lindgren and Deputy Hanson is associated with the name "Seargent Daddio Hanson".

Some of the noteworthy text messages between Lindgren and Deputy Hanson are as follows:

02-14-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "Is this a jail textor?"

02-14-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "If this is a textor in the jail, this can all be seen. Ur going to need to prove a lot Meranda! Oh, & Ryan is out of the picture, ur life & considered gone."

02-14-2023 (Lindgren to Hanson) "Yes this is a jail texter and yes i know these can all be seen i want to be sober for life and yes i know ryon is out of the picture i cant and wont have a man"

02-22-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "Doing good. Was a busy day at work today."

02-22-2023 (Lindgren to Hanson) "Im sorry what all you have to do"



02-22-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "Oh, scheduling, reading reports, court, & returning calls to idiots."

02-22-2023 (Lindgren to Hanson) "Ok i will have to give it a minute gosh i love thank you so much what hours are good to call you dad"

02-22-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "After 8pm That way Kaela isn't here either"

02-22-2023 (Hanson Lindgren) "Oh ya. She already is. Tough shit! I'm my own boss & do what I want."

02-22-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "As I said, nobody controls me"

02-23-2023 at 13:45:10 hours (Lindgren to Hanson) "Can you see if the danco with me jake and "XX" is still in place"

02-23-2023 at 13:49:17 hours (Hanson to Lindgren) "Doesn't expire til 08-05-2024"

Based on this information, Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash believed Deputy Hanson to be utilizing his Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) credentials to query Lindgren's name through the CJIS database to look up the status of the order Lindgren is referring to and its expiration date. All CJIS data is restricted and can only be accessed for official use by authorized individuals operating in an official capacity.

Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash directed the Pennington County Sheriff's Office dispatch to query Lindgren's name through the CJIS database. The query results yielded information regarding an active harassment order between Lindgren and other individuals. The results also listed an order expiration date of 08-05-2024 which is the same date Deputy Hanson provided Lindgren in the above listed message. The order in question is a Pennington County Court harassment order with reference to a specific court file number.

On April 14, 2023, with the assistance of Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Special Agent's Nathan Adams and Ricky Wuori, Pennington County Sheriff Seth Vettleson and Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash were able to make a formal request to the BCA MNJIS Training and Auditing Department for Deputy Hanson's CJIS portal queries to determine if Deputy Hanson had obtained data through the BCA portal on Lindgren AKA Anderson and informed her of said data on 02-23-2023.

On April 18, 2023 BCA MNJIS Auditor Maryan Saad provided Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash via email with the results of their search which indicated no queries of Lindgren/Anderson by Roseau County Sheriff's Office Agency or users during the requested time frame. Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash contacted Auditor Saad via phone and informed her he believed the query had most likely been conducted via a mobile unit of Deputy Hanson's, such as a squad car computer or other device. Auditor Saad was able to run a secondary query and located the following results which she provided to Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash. In speaking with Auditor Saad via phone and reviewing said results Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash learned the following:

02-23-2023 at 13:47:45 hours Roseau County Sheriff's Office ORI MN0680000 mobile device ID ROS16 entered the following (OLN) operator license number AKA drivers license number W153230852309 into the portals search query.

The portal query returned results of a driver's license number for a specific individual and referenced an active protection order with a specific expiration date. Based on the BCA Auditor query results listed above, Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash knows on 02-23-2023 at 13:47:45 hours Roseau County SO

mobile device ROS16 runs a portals query on a specific individual while on that same date, Deputy Hanson messages Lindgren the at 13:49:17 hours the expiration date of the referenced order.

On February 24, 2023 Deputy Hanson replies to a text message from Lindgren with information about another Roseau County Sheriff Deputy's schedule/sick days.

On February 27, 2023 Deputy Hanson is texting Lindgren while he is on duty. Later during this text conversation, it is confirmed by Deputy Hanson that he knows Lindgren is a convicted felon.

On March 10, 2023 Deputy Hanson is texting Lindgren and informing her of official Roseau County Sheriff's Office policies relating to evidence destruction and recertification of squad cars.

On March 17, 2023 Deputy Hanson is replying to text message from Lindgren while on duty in court.

The following are text messages between Lindgren and Deputy Hanson on March 30, 2023:

03-30-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "Restraining order need to come from the courts or Victim impact"

03-30-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "I can't say much on here."

On April 1, 2023 Deputy Hanson replies to a text message from Lindgren and discusses with her official Roseau County Sheriff's Office duties while he is on duty.

On April 4, 2023 Lindgren and Deputy Hanson are involved in a text conversation regarding the release of the motor vehicle Lindgren was arrested in on February 2, 2023. Portions of the text conversation are as follows:

04-04-2023 (Lindgren to Hanson) "Are you fucking kidding me wow"

04-04-2023 (Lindgren to Hanson) "How when he dont have a licence?"

04-04-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "Nope. Get ahold of his mom & tell her that ur stuff is in there & how can she get it to me. Mommy or daddy probably picked it up with him there."

04-04-2023 (Lindgren to Hanson) "His dad died and his mom in texas or i thought she was how does he get away with all this? Do you want his number?"

04-04-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "Ya give me his number. I'll give that fuck a call"

04-04-2023 (Lindgren to Hanson) "XXX-XXX-XXXX"

04-04-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "Ok I'll call the SOB"

04-04-2023 (Hanson to Lindgren) "Well once I get ur stuff, then I'll call him again. Then he's going to get and an ear full with the fear of god put in him"

On April 6, 2023 Deputy Hanson replies to a text message from Lindgren and discusses with her what he was doing in his official work capacity the night prior.

On April 17, 2023 Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash spoke with a TurnKey Account Executive and requested they check into Lindgren's inmate canteen account records to see what funds Deputy Hanson had

deposited into the account. TurnKey is a service utilized by the Pennington County Jail for individuals to transfer funds to inmate's accounts so they can utilize those funds to purchase items/services while incarcerated. The TurnKey Account Executive provided Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash with account printout details. In reviewing the account details Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash learned that Lindgren's account show deposits from an account listed under [bruce.hanson@co.roseau.mn.us](mailto:bruce.hanson@co.roseau.mn.us). Based on this, Deputy Hanson utilized his official Roseau County Sheriff's Office email for unofficial governmental use by facilitating personal deposits in inmate Lindgren's account.

On May 1, 2023 Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash sent a formal request to the BCA MNJIS Training and Auditing Department for a CJIS search history between the time period of 05/01/2022 through 05/01/2023 for the Roseau County Sheriff's Office ORI MN0680000 mobile unit ROS16 that was believed to be utilized by Deputy Bruce Hanson. On the same date, BCA MNJIS Auditor Maryan Saad provided Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash with the device search history via email. Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash noted the following historical search queries:

On 10-24-2022 at 19:57 hours device ROS16 queries Meranda Kay Lindgren by name and date of birth.

On 10-24-2022 at 19:59 hours device ROS16 queries Lindgren's estranged husband by name and date of birth.

On 10-24-2022 at 20:00 hours device ROS16 again queries Lindgren's estranged husband by name and date of birth.

On 10-24-2022 at 20:01 hours device ROS16 again queries Meranda Kay Lindgren by name and date of birth.

On 10-24-2022 at 20:02 hours device ROS16 again queries Meranda Kae Lindgren Dob by name and date of birth.

On 10-24-2022 at 20:02 hours device ROS16 queries Meranda Kae Lindgren's OLN (driver's license number).

On 10-24-2022 at 20:03 hours device ROS16 queries a specific LIC (license plate number). Through investigation Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash learned this license plate number belongs to a specific vehicle registered to Meranda Kae Lindgren and her estranged husband.

Through investigation Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash learned that on October 24, 2022 at approximately 1328 hrs US Recovery reported repossession of the vehicle associated with the license plate number above that was ran by Deputy Hanson. Per Pennington County Dispatch, no calls were received by Lindgren on October 24, 2022 reporting the repossessed vehicle as stolen.

Through investigation Deputy Hanson sends a photograph of what is known to Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash to be the LETG mobile CJIS portal screen displaying license plate registration information, including the license plate number; year, make, and model of the vehicle; registered owner; registered owner's address; and registered owners date of birth.

Through further investigation Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash learned that on October 24, 2022 Deputy Hanson ended his work shift for the Roseau County Sheriff's Office at 1531 hrs. The above-listed queries utilizing device ROS16 were made by Deputy Hanson outside of normal business hours.



On May 8, 2023 Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash sent a formal request to the BCA MNJIS Training and Auditing Department for a CJIS search history between the time period of 01/01/2022 through 05/01/2022 for the Roseau County Sheriff's Office ORI MN0680000 mobile unit ROS16 that was believed to be utilized by Deputy Bruce Hanson. Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash also sent a subpoena for records request to Verizon Wireless for account and subscriber information and phone toll records for Deputy Hanson's cellular phone number.

On May 16, 2023 Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash received the requested phone toll records from Verizon verifying that the cellular phone number submitted was under the account holder, Bruce Hanson of Warroad, Minnesota.

In reviewing Deputy Hanson's phone records Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash noted a call from Lindgren's cellular phone on October 24, 2022 at 19:46:32 hrs to Hanson's cellular phone which lasts approximately 20 minutes. Based on this time frame, Deputy Hanson was on the phone with Lindgren before, during and after the October 24, 2022 CJIS inquiries were made.

On May 17, 2023 Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash drafted an application and affidavit for search warrant for the various records and information retained by the Roseau County Sheriff's Office to further the investigation. The application and affidavit were reviewed and approved by one of the District Court Judge's

On May 18, 2023 Pennington County Sheriff Seth Vettleson and Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash proceeded to the Roseau County Sheriff's Office to execute the warrant. Roseau County Sheriff Steve Gust and Roseau County Chief Deputy Tobi Eidsmoe were briefed on the investigation and agreed to assist provide the data requested on the search warrant.

Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash learned Deputy Hanson's cellular phone bill was being partially paid for by a stipend from the Roseau County Sheriff's Office and was being used for work purposes and therefore contained government type data as well as personal data. Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash also learned Deputy Hanson was working inside the Roseau County Sheriff's Office building as Sheriff Vettleson and he were speaking with Sheriff Gust and Chief Deputy Eidsmoe. Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash informed Sheriff Gust and Chief Deputy Eidsmoe that he feared destruction of evidence on the cellular phone upon Deputy Hanson learning about what was taking place and the fact that Pennington County Chief Deputy was going to obtain a search warrant for the cellular phone. Deputy Hanson was called to Sheriff Gust's office at which time Sheriff Gust provided Deputy Hanson with a letter ordering Deputy Hanson to turn over his cellular phone. Deputy Hanson turned over his iPhone with a white tail deer case to Sheriff Vettleson and Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash. Deputy Hanson indicated the password was a facial recognition type passcode. The phone was then placed in airplane mode to prevent the information on it from being remotely deleted. The phone was also set to not lock and was secured.

Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash informed Deputy Hanson of the criminal investigation into data practice violations relating to CJIS data. Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash informed Deputy Hanson he was not under arrest and was free to leave but he would like to speak with Deputy Hanson about it. Deputy Hanson indicated he was going to speak to his union.

Pursuant to the search warrant execution at the Roseau County Sheriff's Office Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash learned from Roseau County IT Director Chris Stauffer that device ROS16 is a CJIS device ID for the LETG application portal which is assigned to Deputy Hanson and his squad car laptop computer. With the assistance of ID Director Stauffer and Roseau County Sheriff Investigator Jeff Nelson, Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash was able to see the LETG application portal information showing ROS16 which is unique to Deputy Hanson and the laptop.



Roseau County IT Director Stauffer also showed Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash that Deputy Hanson's laptop computer has a Roseau County Device sticker ID SO20BKH2 on it identifying as Deputy Hanson's. The BKH in the ID stands for Bruce Kent Hanson.

Pursuant to the search warrant, Roseau County IT Director Stauffer provided Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash with the following GPS location information for Deputy Hanson's laptop computer showing its location on 10/24/22 during the time period of 19:57 hours to 20:03 hours when the CJIS queries of Lindgren and her estranged husband and their motor vehicle were made. The locations shown were southwest of the city of Warroad in rural Roseau County. The locations show the laptop traveling to Deputy Hanson's residence and arriving there at approximately 20:15 hours.

Pursuant to the search warrant, Roseau County IT Director Stauffer provided Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash with the following GPS location information for Deputy Hanson's laptop computer showing its location on 02/23/2023 during the time period when the CJIS query was conducted at 13:47 hours. The locations show the laptop located at Warroad Motors which is a mechanic shop located in the city of Warroad and is where a friend of Deputy Hanson's works.

Pursuant to the search warrant, Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash was provided with payroll documentation relating to Deputy Hanson's hours worked and work schedule from Roseau County Sheriff's Office. On October 5, 2022, Deputy Hanson worked 8.5 hrs from 0654 hrs to 1538 hrs. During these work hours, Deputy Hanson was in Thief River Falls, Pennington County, Minnesota during Lindgren's property exchange, hooked up a trailer to his squad car and drove away. On October 17, 2022, Deputy Hanson completed a Roseau County Payroll Time Sheet claiming 8.5 hrs worked on October 5, 2022. Deputy Hanson signed the Roseau County Payroll Time Sheet thereby "certifying that the hours listed above are true and correct." On October 24, 2022, Deputy Hanson worked 8.5 hrs from 0657 hrs to 1531 hrs. Deputy Hanson was not working when the CJIS queries of Lindgren, her estranged husband and the motor vehicle license plate were made. On February 23, 2023, Deputy Hanson worked 8.5 hrs from 0657 hrs to 1538 hrs. Deputy Hanson was working when the CJIS queries for the DANCO expiration date were made.

Pursuant to the search warrant, Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash was provided with the following training certificates for Deputy Hanson's CJIS training that the Roseau County Sheriff's Office had on file:

CJIS level 4 security awareness training certificate showing a certification date of 08/18/2020 and an expiration date of 08/18/2022.

BCA single certification certificate showing a certification date of 05/07/2020 and an expiration date of 05/07/2022.

Pursuant to the search warrant, Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash requested any records/documentation of calls for service to the Roseau County Sheriff's Office from Lindgren, Lindgren's estranged husband, the other party to the domestic abuse no contact order or any incidents involving any of them on October 24, 2022 and February 23, 2023. Roseau County Sheriff's Office Captain Matt Restad reviewed the Roseau County Sheriff's Office records and located no calls for service made to the Roseau County Sheriff's Office by any of the above parties during either of those dates.

On May 18, 2023 Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash received the requested further historical CJIS query history from the BCA MNJIS Training and Auditing Department for Deputy Hanson's account for the time period of 01/01/2022 through 05/01/2022.

In reviewing these records, Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash located a CJIS query from February 12, 2022 at 1341 hrs from Deputy Hanson's account querying Kaela Ra Nelson – 09/11/1993 by name and date of birth. Through investigation it is known that Nelson is Deputy Hanson's girlfriend. The time sheet records from the Roseau County Sheriff's Office show Deputy Hanson working from 0706 hrs to 1433 hrs. Deputy Hanson was working at the time the Nelson CJIS query was made.

On May 22, 2023 Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash drafted an application and affidavit for search warrant for Deputy Hanson's iPhone with the white tail deer case that was currently being held at the Pennington County Sheriff's Office. The application and affidavit were reviewed and approved by one of the District Court Judge's.

On the same date, Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash turned Deputy Hanson's iPhone over to Thief River Falls Police Department Investigator Brady Meunier who transported it to the Bemidji BCA Office so efforts to download the phone could begin. On the same date, MN BCA Special Agent Ward Williams contacted Pennington County Chief Deputy and explained the MN BCA could not download Deputy Hanson's iPhone with their current technology. Deputy Hanson's phone was turned back over to Investigator Meunier who transported it back to Thief River Falls and turned it back over to Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash's custody.

Deputy Hanson's cellular phone was previously set to not lock, however, it still requires a passcode to allow the technology employed by the BCA and Thief River Falls Police Department to begin downloading it.

On May 23, 2023 Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash began looking through the phone manually and photographing relevant information within the parameters of the search warrant.

Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash noted the same text conversations on Deputy Hanson's cell phone as were contained in Lindgren's jail text message log.

Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash observed a text message conversation between Deputy Hanson's phone and "Jake S." date March 13, 2023, at 13:17 hours.

(Jake) to (Hanson) "Definitely not who was driving the truck"

(Jake) to (Hanson) "Try XXX"

(Hanson) to (Jake) "What type of vehicle is it?"

(Hanson) to (Jake) "XXX XXX is on a 2016 white Toyota Rav 4 sports utility."

(Jake) to (Hanson) "It was a Chevy ava-lanche blue"

(Jake) to (Hanson) "2006 ish"

(Jake) to (Hanson) "Jke386"

(Hanson) to (Jake) "I'm not near a computer right now, but I'll let u"

(Jake) to (Hanson) "Thank you"

(Jake) to (Hanson) "Some sketchy dudes pulled in asking for help with their trailer but I wasn't about to let then in my shop"

(Hanson) to (Lindgren) "Ya, don't let that happen"

(Jake) to (Hanson) "Definitely meth involved"

(Hanson) to (Lindgren) "Ya, casing places"

(Jake) to (Hanson) "They had an issue with their trailer for sure but I still wasn't going to help them"

Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash observes on March 14, 2023 at 12:43 hrs Deputy Hanson sends a photograph of what is known to Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash to be the LETG mobile CJIS portal screen displaying license plate registration information, including the license plate number; year, make, and model of the vehicle; registered owner; registered owner's address; and registered owners date of birth.

Based on time sheet records from the Roseau County Sheriff's Office Deputy Hanson worked 8.5 hrs on March 14, 2023 from 0700 hrs to 1500 hrs. Deputy Hanson was working when the above CJIS query was made and its information shared with "Jake S.". Through investigation it was learned that "Jake S." is Jake Seidenstricker of Jakes Top Notch Tree Service LLC, 3658 Beetle Road, Princeton, Minnesota.

Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash observed a text message conversation between Deputy Hanson's phone and "Matt Nelson" dated March 17, 2022, at 11:28 hours. Based on investigation, Nelson is possibly Deputy Hanson's girlfriend's brother.

(Matt) to (Hanson) "XXX XXX can u run that plate? Parked at the shed west bo lived"  
(Hanson) to (Matt) "Speak English"  
(Matt) to (Hanson) "XXX XXX is the plate on a car and not sure if it's dumb asses boe johnson lol"  
(Hanson) to (Matt) "Is it a Cadillac"  
(Matt) to (Hanson) "Yep"  
(Hanson) to (Lindgren) "No. Not his"  
(Matt) to (Hanson) "Ok"

Based on time sheet records from the Roseau County Sheriff's Office Deputy Hanson worked 8.5 hrs on March 17, 2022 from 0658 hrs to 1557 hrs. Deputy Hanson was working when the above CJIS query was made.

Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash observes a text message conversation between Deputy Hanson's phone and "Heidi Thompson" dated March 30, 2023, at 17:02 hours. Through investigation, Heidi Thompson is Scott Thompson's AKA "Spike's" wife and are personal friends of Deputy Hanson's.

(Heidi) to (Hanson) "Can you run XXXXXX"

Hanson sends a photograph of what Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash knows to be the LETG mobile CJIS portal screen displaying license plate registration information, including the license plate number; year, make, and model of the vehicle; registered owner; registered owner's address; and registered owners date of birth.

(Heidi) to (Hanson) "Thank you!"

(Hanson) to (Heidi) "Yw"

Based on time sheet records from the Roseau County Sheriff's Office Deputy Hanson worked 8.5 hrs on March 30, 2023 from 0947 hrs to 1827 hrs. Deputy Hanson was working when the above CJIS query was made and its information shared with Heidi Thompson.

Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash observes a text message conversation between Deputy Hanson's phone and "Meranda Sletten" dated July 4, 2022, at 17:31 hours. Meranda Lindgren/Anderson's mother's last name is Sletten.

(Meranda) to (Hanson) "XXX XXX"  
(Hanson) to (Meranda) "What?"  
(Meranda) to (Hanson) "Can you run the plate please"  
(Hanson) to (Meranda) "Have to do it tomorrow. I'm not working"

July 5, 2022, at 11:54 hours:

(Hanson) to (Meranda) "2014 White Volkswagen hatchback?"  
(Meranda) to (Hanson) "Yes sir Daddio"  
(Hanson) to (Meranda) "Came back to some guy out of "X", "X"  
(Meranda) to (Hanson) "That is so weird he fol-lowed me around for about an hour"

Based on time sheet records from the Roseau County Sheriff's Office Deputy Hanson worked 8.5 hrs on July 5, 2022 from 0656 hrs to 1533 hrs. Deputy Hanson was working when the above CJIS query was made and its information shared with Lindgren.

Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash observes the following three text messages from Lindgren to Deputy Hanson's phone dated April 4, 2022, at 08:22 hours.

(Meranda) to (Hanson) "XXX XXX"  
(Meranda) to Hanson) "Or XXX XXX"  
(Meranda) to (Hanson) "Good morning you work-ing"

Deputy Hanson did not respond via text. However, Pennington County Chief Deputy Mekash reviewed CJIS search history for Deputy Hanson's account and located Deputy Hanson did in fact query "XXX XXX" on April 4, 2022 at 8:23 hours and "XXX XXX" on April 4, 2022 at 08:23 hours. Based on time sheet records from the Roseau County Sheriff's Office Deputy Hanson worked 9 hrs on April 4, 2022 from 0701 hrs to 1611 hrs. Deputy Hanson was working when the above CJIS queries were made.

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## SIGNATURES AND APPROVALS

Complainant requests that Defendant, subject to bail or conditions of release, be:  
(1) arrested or that other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court; or  
(2) detained, if already in custody, pending further proceedings; and that said Defendant otherwise be dealt with according to law.

Complainant declares under penalty of perjury that everything stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat. § 358.116; Minn. R. Crim. P. 2.01, subds. 1, 2.

**Complainant**

Scott Mekash  
Chief Deputy Sheriff  
102 W 1st St  
Thief River Falls, MN 56701  
Badge: 1302

Manually Signed:  
06/20/2023 12:42 PM  
Pennington County, Minnesota



Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

**Prosecuting Attorney**

Seamus P Duffy  
County Attorney  
141 Main Ave South  
Thief River Falls, MN 56701  
(218) 681-8773

Manually Signed: 06/20/2023  
12:43 PM



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## FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE

From the above sworn facts, and any supporting affidavits or supplemental sworn testimony, I, the Issuing Officer, have determined that probable cause exists to support, subject to bail or conditions of release where applicable, Defendant's arrest or other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court, or Defendant's detention, if already in custody, pending further proceedings. Defendant is therefore charged with the above-stated offense(s).

### ☒ SUMMONS

THEREFORE YOU, THE DEFENDANT, ARE SUMMONED to appear on July 5, 2023 at 11:30 AM/PM before the above-named court at 141 Main Avenue South Avenue, Thief River Falls, MN 56701 to answer this complaint.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR in response to this SUMMONS, a WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST shall be issued.

### ☐ WARRANT

To the Sheriff of the above-named county; or other person authorized to execute this warrant: I order, in the name of the State of Minnesota, that the Defendant be apprehended and arrested without delay and brought promptly before the court (if in session), and if not, before a Judge or Judicial Officer of such court without unnecessary delay, and in any event not later than 36 hours after the arrest or as soon as such Judge or Judicial Officer is available to be dealt with according to law.

☐ Execute in MN Only

☐ Execute Nationwide

☐ Execute in Border States

### ☐ ORDER OF DETENTION

Since the Defendant is already in custody, I order, subject to bail or conditions of release, that the Defendant continue to be detained pending further proceedings.

Bail: \$  
Conditions of Release:

This complaint, duly subscribed and sworn to or signed under penalty of perjury, is issued by the undersigned Judicial Officer as of the following date: June 20, 2023.

Judicial Officer  
Tamara Yon

Electronically Signed:



Yon, Tamara  
2023.06.20 20:55:34  
-05'00'

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

COUNTY OF ROSEAU  
STATE OF MINNESOTA

**State of Minnesota**

Plaintiff

vs.

**Bruce Kent Hanson**

Defendant

**LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER RETURN OF SERVICE**  
I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this Order of Detention upon the Defendant herein named.

Signature of Authorized Service Agent:

## DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

**Name:** Bruce Kent Hanson  
**DOB:** 04/09/1965  
**Address:** 62791 County Road 2  
Warroad, MN 56763

**Alias Names/DOB:**

**SID:**

**Height:** 6' 0"

**Weight:** 220 lbs.

**Eye Color:**

**Hair Color:**

**Gender:** MALE

**Race:**

**Fingerprints Required per Statute:** Yes

**Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record:**

**Driver's License #:** C893083328220 (MN)

**Alcohol Concentration:**

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## STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID

| Cnt Nbr | Statute Type | Offense Date(s)    | Statute Nbrs and Descriptions                                     | Offense Level     | MOC   | GOC | Controlling Agencies | Case Numbers |
|---------|--------------|--------------------|---|-------------------|-------|-----|----------------------|--------------|
| 1       | Charge       | 10/5/22 – 10/17/22 | 609.465<br>Present False Claims to Public Officer or Body         | Felony            | Y1130 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
|         | Penalty      | 10/5/22 – 10/17/22 | 609.52.3.3.d.iv<br>Present False Claims to Public Officer or Body | Felony            | Y1130 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
| 2       | Charge       | 10/05/22           | 609.43.2<br>Misconduct of Public Officer or Employee              | Gross Misdemeanor | Y2090 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
|         | Penalty      | 10/05/22           | 609.43.2<br>Misconduct of Public Officer or Employee              | Gross Misdemeanor | Y2090 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
| 3       | Charge       | 03/17/22           | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices, Penalties                   | Misdemeanor       | Y3000 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
|         | Penalty      | 03/17/22           | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices, Penalties                   | Misdemeanor       | Y3000 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
| 4       | Charge       | 04/04/22           | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices, Penalties                   | Misdemeanor       | Y3000 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
|         | Penalty      | 04/04/22           | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices, Penalties                   | Misdemeanor       | Y3000 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
| 5       | Charge       | 07/05/22           | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices, Penalties                   | Misdemeanor       | Y3000 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
|         | Penalty      | 07/05/22           | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices, Penalties                   | Misdemeanor       | Y3000 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
| 6       | Charge       | 02/23/23           | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices, Penalties                   | Misdemeanor       | Y3000 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
|         | Penalty      | 02/23/23           | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices, Penalties                   | Misdemeanor       | Y3000 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
| 7       | Charge       | 03/13/23           | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices, Penalties                   | Misdemeanor       | Y3000 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |
|         | Penalty      | 03/13/22           | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices, Penalties                   | Misdemeanor       | Y3000 |     | MN0570000            | 23001229     |



|   |         |          |  |             |       |           |          |
|---|---------|----------|--|-------------|-------|-----------|----------|
| 8 | Charge  | 03/30/23 | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices,<br>Penalties | Misdemeanor | Y3000 | MN0570000 | 23001229 |
|   | Penalty | 03/30/23 | 13.09.a<br>Government Date Practices,<br>Penalties | Misdemeanor | Y3000 | MN0570000 | 23001229 |



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